GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:972
ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008
HIGH CARGO RATES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cargo rates charged for agricultural products by State Owned airlines are quite high;

(b) if so the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines and Air India propose to convert some of its existing fleet into cargo aircraft;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken of to make Government owned airlines more competitive to private airlines?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): The cargo rates for agricultural products charged by National Aviation Company o f India Limited a re very competitive as compared to other airlines.

(b): Does not arise

(c): and (d): Yes, Sir. NACIL has converted its three A310 and three B737 passenger aircraft into cargo freighters. A fourth converted A310 aircraft will join the fleet in December 2008 and two more B737 aircraft are being converted for freighter operations.

(e): Government owned airlines are already competitive in terms of Cargo rates and availability of cargo freighters.